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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT : Kimle, et al.
SERIAL NO. : 09/335,648
FILED : June 18, 1999
TITLE : METHOD OF ELECTRONICALLY INITIATING AND
MANAGING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION CONTRACTS
Grp./A.U. : 2164
Examiner : Kyle, C.
Conf. No. : 6709
Docket No. : P03566US0

Handwritten signatures and date 3/5/02.

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
37 C.F.R. 1.111 116

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C.
BOX NON-FEE

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 8, 2001, please consider the following remarks:

REMARKS

A. Overview

Claims 1-28 are pending in the present application. The Examiner, in the Office Action of November 8, 2001, entered final rejections to the claims. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

B. Rejections Based on Primary Reference Walker U.S. Patent 5,794,207

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01 FC:215
The Examiner declined to remove U.S. Patent 5,794,207 ("Walker") as a prior art reference on two grounds: (1) The evidence submitted was insufficient to establish diligence from a date prior to the date of reduction to practice of Walker to either a